



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - Second Special Session - 2002
Committee Statement
LB 48

Hearing Date: August 5, 2002

Committee On: Health and Human Services

Introducer(s): (Appropriations Committee)

Title: Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

X Advanced to General File with Amendments

Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7 Yes Senator Jensen, Byars, Suttle, Price, Cunningham, Maxwell and Erdman

No

Present, not voting

Absent

Proponents:

Senator Roger Wehrbein

Representing:

Introducer

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Kathy Moore

Liz Hruska

Representing:

Voices for Children in Nebraska

Appropriations Committee

Summary of purpose and/or changes: The bill makes changes to the Child Abuse Prevention Fund. The purpose of this bill is to allow for a one-time transfer to the General Fund of \$800,000, and preserve the Child Abuse Prevention Program.

The current structure of the Child Abuse Prevention Fund is moving towards an endowment model. Fees on birth certificates and divorce decrees were increased when the original bill was passed. The fees are deposited into the General Fund.

Statutes currently direct \$250,000 from the General Fund to be transferred annually to the Child Abuse Prevention Fund. When the Child Abuse Prevention Fund reaches \$2.5 million, the fees are sunset. LB 48 would flow the fees directly to the fund which, in turn, allows the program to continue at its present level. The endowment language is repealed and the fees are made permanent.

Explanation of amendments, if any: The committee amendment (AM 9025) corrects a fund reference in the bill. On page 9, line 5, it deletes “Department of Health and Human Services Cash” Fund and inserts “General” Fund.

Senator Jim Jensen, Chairperson